

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 23 July —, 1885.

Hon. D. M. Foy.

Superintendent

Sir,

In reply to Prof. Eggleston's note to you, of 22nd Inst., I beg to say that at the Mint of the U. S. at Philad^a, we part gold and silver by one process, and have never used any other, except experimentally. We melt one oz. of commercial gold, with about ^{two} ~~four~~ of silver, granulating it by casting into ice-water, extracting the silver by pure nitric acid of 40° Beaumé, and sometimes boiling the residue with oil of vitriol to bring the gold up to .998 @ .999½, rarely 1.000°. I know of no published description of the process we employ.

Very respectfully,

J. C. Booth
M. & R.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 134

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
Melting and Refining Department,
Philadelphia,
July 23, 1885

Hon. D.M. Fox
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Very respectfully,
Jas. C. Booth